

1      **ABSTRACT**

2      A multimedia application program interface (API), selectively invoked in a  
3      computing system to interface any video decoder application with any video  
4      accelerator is presented comprising a command data structure and a residual  
5      difference data structure. The residual difference data structure includes residual  
6      difference information for use among and between the decoder and the accelerator  
7      in the prediction process. The control command data structure includes control  
8      commands which are dynamically tailored to interface the decoder application  
9      with a hardware accelerator in accordance with an acceptable media processing  
10     standard negotiated between the decoder and the accelerator.

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